

helped ready our country to meet nearly any military challenge.

Mr. President, as I look across the room, I am reminded that another Georgian soon will be assigned the desk that Senator NUNN has occupied for nearly one-quarter of a century. Without a doubt, his desk will be difficult to fill, but I am sure Senator NUNN, in his wisdom and knowledge of this body, will do everything possible to guide Georgia's new Senator. As we prepare to leave our Nation's Capital and return to our respective districts, my wife Harriet and I wish SAM NUNN and his lovely wife Colleen, the very best for the future. Something tells me that the Senator from Georgia will continue to be a central figure in formulating our national security and foreign policies. It would be a mistake not to tap into SAM NUNN's knowledge, experience and leadership. God bless SAM NUNN as he embarks on interesting new challenges.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR PAUL SIMON

Mr. PRESSLER. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to pay tribute to my good friend from Illinois, PAUL SIMON. Senator SIMON will leave the Senate very soon, and I must confess that I will miss him. He is an outstanding legislator, and skillful writer, and most important, a kind friend to me and my wife Harriet.

Throughout his life, Senator SIMON has found success as a writer and editor. He is a prolific writer, and the author of many books, including perhaps the most comprehensive biography of Abraham Lincoln as a young legislator. The connection between these two Illinois favorite sons past and present doesn't end there. Both Abraham Lincoln and PAUL SIMON began their political careers in the Illinois legislature, and both at about the same time in their lives. Both built a reputation of honesty and forthrightness. Both sported bow ties. Where the careers diverged is somewhat ironic. Senator SIMON holds the very Senate seat unsuccessfully sought by Abraham Lincoln in his famous battle with Stephen Douglas in 1858. Yet, Abraham Lincoln of course won the presidency in 1860, an office Senator SIMON unsuccessfully sought in 1988.

Certainly, there's much more to Senator SIMON's career than his similarities with our Nation's greatest President. Much more. Senator SIMON has been his party's most outspoken crusader for a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution. I am proud to have been an original cosponsor of his balanced budget amendment. He worked very, very hard to get his amendment passed. We came so close last year—just one vote short. He can be very certain that we will work hard to resume the fight next year. I am confident that we will pass a balanced budget amendment. And when we do, and when the required number of

States ratify the amendment, this Nation will owe a big thank you to our friend from Illinois.

The fight for a balanced budget amendment symbolizes the kind of commitment and determination Senator SIMON possesses as a legislator. I always enjoyed being on the same side of an issue with my friend from Illinois. I knew my chances of success were much improved if he was involved in any legislative effort I participated in. Conversely, I knew I had my work cut out for me when we were on opposite sides of an issue.

Senator SIMON was a champion of many causes—literacy, college student loans, limitations on television violence, just to name a few. We both served together as members of the Foreign Relations and Judiciary Committees. On Foreign Relations, he took a strong interest in the African continent. Indeed, in 1993, I sought his advice and perspectives before I made my trip to Africa to promote South Dakota agriculture.

There are so many things that can be said about Senator PAUL SIMON. He is an extraordinary man who has led an extraordinary life. What I will miss most however is his warmth and his kindness. If the Senate had an unofficial ambassador of goodwill, it was the senior Senator from Illinois. Senator SIMON regularly held open meetings in his office and had time for everyone who came to visit. That's the kind of Senator, the kind of man PAUL SIMON is. Senator SIMON is an extraordinary individual, and a good friend. Harriet and I wish he and his lovely wife Jeanne nothing but the best.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR HANK BROWN

Mr. PRESSLER. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to pay tribute to my friend from Colorado, Senator HANK BROWN. He and his lovely wife Nan have been good friends to me and Harriet. HANK BROWN is both worthy ally and worthy adversary. Over the years, I have worked with my friend from Colorado on several issues of mutual interest. I remember well the battles we have fought together and the times when we honorably have disagreed.

I remember one disagreement in particular. During my efforts in support of our South Dakota honey program, Senator BROWN was relentless to end Federal funding for the program. Yet, in his effort to end honey price supports, he still was willing to listen to my side. He even took the time to sit down to visit with honey producers from South Dakota. He listened to their concerns. I always will be grateful for that.

That is not the only time Senator BROWN and I have agreed to disagree. More than once, we have sparred over nuclear nonproliferation issues in South Asia. Senator BROWN and I travelled to South Asia together and de-

bated this topic quite extensively. While he and I disagree on the best course of action our Nation should take to slow weapons-building programs in South Asia, I do not question for a second his efforts to promote peace in this unstable region of the world.

As fellow Vietnam veteran, Senator BROWN and I have shared a special personal involvement in preserving and protecting the interests of our veterans. He has done an outstanding job as a member of the Veterans Affairs Committee. He has dedicated hours of service to making certain that veterans programs meet each and every need of those who served bravely in our Armed Forces.

Finally, Senator BROWN has been a tenacious advocate in congressional efforts to balance the bloated Federal budget. He has been a prominent member of the Senate Budget Committee, and knows the vital importance of ending years of wasteful Government spending. He understands how necessary it is for us to put the Government's fiscal house in order. HANK BROWN has risen to the fiscal challenges placed before him on the Budget Committee and has fought hard to protect Americans' hard-earned incomes.

I will miss my friend and colleague from Colorado—his hard work, his good humor, and his friendship. During his term in office, HANK BROWN has demonstrated a sincere devotion to the people of his home State of Colorado. He is a hard-working, commonsense public servant, dedicated to the people he represents. We in the Senate will miss his willingness to listen to differing views and to work together to cut through Government gridlock. I wish my friend HANK and his wife Nan all the best.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR NANCY KASSEBAUM

Mr. PRESSLER. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to my friend and colleague, Senator NANCY KASSEBAUM, on her retirement from the U.S. Senate. It is not easy for me to bid her farewell. I sincerely will miss her presence in this body. Nancy and I have served together since 1979, when we both came to this body. Since then, we have shared and fought for the same traditional midwestern ideals and values. Working together, we have succeeded in ensuring that our States get their fair share of Federal funding. She understands the unique needs of rural America. Few have shown her deep commitment to the interests of Kansas and the midwest.

It has been a great privilege for me to work with Senator KASSEBAUM. She has been an inspiration to me and countless others. Her hard work and dedication to this body and to the people she represents in Kansas are unprecedented.

During our years together on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, I